On the beat in…

North Shropshire

Market Drayton

Wem

Whitchurch

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

June 2026

*Current statistics on calls to police and crime recording for your neighbourhood can be found at **www.police.uk**. If you wish to discuss further, please contact a member of your Safer Neighbourhood Team.*

Market Drayton – Team contact details:

Team email: marketdrayton.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer:	PC Iain McIntosh	**Mobile:**	07811 748 732
Safer Neighbourhood Officer:	PC Tom Rayment	**Mobile:**	07977 957 718
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Steve Robinson	**Mobile:**	07870 218 709
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Tara Carruthers	**Mobile:**	07971 050 442
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Richard Parker	**Mobile:**	07483 123 858

Wem – Team contact details:

Team email: wem.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer:	PC Jack Harper	**Mobile:**	07817 885 113
Safer Neighbourhood Officer:	PC Mark Holtschke	**Mobile:**	07971 051 201
Police Community support Officer:	PCSO Lizz Walmsley	**Mobile:**	07967 303 567
Police Community support Officer:	Vacant	**Mobile:**	TBC

Whitchurch – Team contact details:

Team email: whitchurch.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer:	PC Mark Bates	**Mobile:**	07900 607 965
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Jamie Robinson	**Mobile:**	07967 301 147
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Dave Andrew	**Mobile:**	07971 395 050
Police Community Support Officer:	PCSO Lee Durrant	**Mobile:**	07483 102 701

Reporting A Crime

Is it an emergency?

Call **999** in emergency situations like these:

- there is an immediate danger to life
- someone is using violence or is threatening to be violent
- a crime is happening right now, like a house burglary or a theft
- the suspect is still at the scene

If it's not an emergency

If you've witnessed or been the victim of crime that isn't an emergency, please report it to us.

Your report will be sent direct to our control room. Before you give us the details of the crime, we'll ask you a few questions to make sure you go to the right online form.
www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

Please encourage your parishioners to sign up to **Neighbourhood Matters**...

Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

June 2026

Hello Parish Councils,

This is your North Shropshire Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Newsletter for **June 2026**. Please see the link above to **police.uk** for crime recording statistics for your area, or any other area in the UK should you wish.

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss anything further, if we can provide more information we will, our contact details are above. If there is anything specific that is affecting your parish area above and beyond the three priorities you have nominated, again please let us know and we will endeavour to support you.

The official West Mercia Police website **www.westmercia.police.uk** has a wealth of information and includes dedicated sections in relation to **News, Recruitment, Watch Schemes, Neighbourhood Matters, Crime Prevention Advice, Support For Victims, other Advice and Information and Thanks & Complaints.**

Our North Shropshire SNTs work in a very challenging and varied role and no two days are the same, naturally there are many requests for our time, support and assistance. Obviously, much of what we do we can't tell you too much about, but rest assured that much of our focus is on the three Parish Council Priorities that you provide us with quarterly.

Much of the good work that SNTs engage with are posted in the following places:

- Parish Council attendance in person or North Shropshire SNT Newsletters
- Neighbourhood Matters – **www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk**
- Facebook - **www.facebook.com/MktDraytonPolice (North Shropshire specific)**

  www.facebook.com/westmerciapolice

  www.facebook.com/WMPRuralMatters

Below is just a small snapshot of the good work North Shropshire SNTs have been involved with recently…

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
Vehicle seizure in Stanton Upon Hine Heath.
Concerns were raised by local residents in Stanton Upon Hine Heath over vehicles causing an obstruction to the highway.
Market Drayton Safer Neighbourhood Team have attended the area and seized a VW Beetle for being notified off road (SORN).
You said, we did - Tax it, insure it or risk losing it! See less
oops

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
A man has been arrested following a warrant at a property in Shropshire after a significant amount of drugs were discovered.
The warrant was carried out at an address on Station Road in Wem based on intel that drugs were being dealt from the property.
When officers entered the address they found a significant quantity of class A and class B drugs, as well as £800 in cash and a mobile phone linked to drugs supply.
A man, aged 18, was located in the property and arrested on suspicion of being concerned in supply of drugs. He remains in police custody as enquiries continue.
The warrant was carried out by West Mercia's Child Exploitation Team and Wem Safer Neighbourhood Team based off of intel provided to police by the local community.
Detective Constable Emily Cooke said: "This warrant was the direct result of information given to us by the local community, which led to of a significant quantity of harmful drugs being found and taken off the streets.
"The arrest made today shows our commitment to acting swiftly on intelligence and tackling those involved in the supply of illegal drugs in Shropshire.
"Our enquiries remain ongoing, and we will continue to protect vulnerable people and keep our communities safe." See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
Hundreds of packets of illegal cigarettes and illicit tobacco worth an estimated £8,000 were seized when partners visited a stores in north Shropshire last week.
Officers from Wem and Whitchurch's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) supported Shropshire's Trading Standards in visiting two shops in Whitchurch and one in Wem last Wednesday (6 May) following community concerns around the illegal sale of products.
A total of almost 15,000 sticks of cigarettes worth an estimated street value of £4,494, and over 10 kilograms of hand rolling tobacco worth approximately £3,636, were seized from vehicles linked to shops in Wem and Whitchurch.
PC Mark Bates, from the SNT, said: "The sale of illegal cigarettes and illicit tobacco harms our communities, fuels organised criminality and puts people's health at real risk. This was a significant seizure, and it sends a clear message that we will not tolerate the unlawful trade of these products in north Shropshire.
"I want to thank our partners in Trading Standards for their continued work and the community for raising their concerns, which directly led to this action. We will continue working together to protect the public and hold those responsible to account." See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
As part of #Sceptre PC McIndosh from the Market Drayton Safer Neighbourhood Team will be available to assist with the safe disposal of knives and bladed items between 12pm and 2pm this Thursday (21st May) at Market Drayton Police Station. This is part of West Mercia's commitment to combating knife crime and keeping our communities safe. See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
23 April ·

This morning (Thursday 23 April), we received a report from a concerned member of the public about a woman approaching people near the High Street car park in Wem and asking for charity donations. The caller felt that something didn't seem right.

PC Jack Harper, from the Wem Safer Neighbourhood Team, was quick to begin making enquiries. A woman has been arrested on suspicion of fraud and is currently in police custody helping officers with enquiries.

To raise concerns around bogus callers, please contact us via our website here: https://orlo.uk/TVKnW or visit the Action Fraud website for further advice.

If you believe you may have donated money today, or have any information that may help with enquiries, please contact PC Jack Harper on jack.harper@westmercia.police.uk. See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
18 April ·

🚨 The Market Drayton Safer Neighbourhood Team are outside the library and Savers on Frogmore Road, Market Drayton today, Saturday 18th April, carrying out free bike marking and registration on the National Bike Register. 🚲

🚨 We are here until 4pm, so feel free to pop along, have your bike registered or have a chat about any local issues that you'd like to raise or to sign up to Neighbourhood Matters, our community messaging service 👍 See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
16 April ·

🚨 Vehicle seizure Market Drayton, Frogmore Road 🚨

Whilst officers were out on patrol in Market Drayton a vehicle was observed driving with a broken brake light.
Stop-checks were conducted on the driver and the vehicle.
Checks confirmed the driver wasn't insured to drive the vehicle.

The driver was issued a traffic offence report and the vehicle was immediately seized.
Another great stop by local officers.

🚔 North Shropshire Police keeping the roads safe for everyone 🚔 See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
12 April ·

Market Drayton Police.
Vehicle Seized for no tax and no mot! 🚨

‼ Patrols Conducted - Whilst out on routine patrol in Market Drayton PC Platt & PC Kinsey noticed a vehicle with no brake lights, and observed the driving to be below the standard of a competent driver.

‼ Checks made - Checks were conducted on the vehicle, the checks resulted in PC Platt & Kinsey stopping it 🚔

‼ Enquiries undergoing – During enquiries the driver was breathalysed – the driver had blown 31 and advice was given by officers.

‼ Outcome - The checks that had been conducted on the vehicle showed it had no tax and no mot.

‼ The results are in - Vehicle seized by police.

📍 A polite reminder from your local police please ensure your vehicle has tax, mot & insurance 📍
Working together to keep the roads safe for everyone to use 📍 See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
10 April
North Shropshire D Shift – Night Shift Highlights
Whilst many of you were hopefully asleep, officers from North Shropshire D Shift were out and about, keeping our communities safe and responding to a number of calls from some very eagle eyed members of the public.
Below is a selection of incidents dealt with during the night shift:
Concern for Safety – Suspected Drink/Drug Driver (Oswestry)
Officers responded to a report from McDonald's staff who were concerned about a customer who they suspected to be under the influence before driving away. Officers quickly located the vehicle, arrested the driver, and recovered suspected class A drugs. The driver was taken into custody.
Suspicious Vehicle – Wem Area
Following reports of a suspicious vehicle parked in a remote location near Wem, officers attended and located both the vehicle and the driver. Checks revealed no valid tax or MOT, resulting in the vehicle being seized and removed from the road, where it was on its way to either becoming road legal or crushed.
These are just two examples of the proactive work carried out overnight to protect our communities; with the key factor being the information provided by you.
Thank you to everyone who reports concerns – it really does make a difference. Registration numbers, exact locations are key!
Always call 999 in an emergency or if an incident is ongoing
For non urgent matters, contact us via 101 or through online reporting - Report a crime | West Mercia Police See less

Market Drayton, Wem and Whitchurch Police
8 April
Vehicle Seized Market Drayton
PC Platt & PC Kinsey have been out on patrol when we received information that a dog was trapped in a car. On arrival the officers identified the vehicle was left with keys inside and all windows were done up. Thankfully the dog was successfully removed and checks confirmed the vehicle had:
No insurance
No tax
And to add to that it was also parked at the time on the pavement!
The Vehicle was removed under section 165 of the Roads traffic act by the officers for these offences
You Said, We Did - Tax your car, Insure your car or risk us removing it! See less

As part of the monthly Newsletter, we will be adding trending and/or appropriate crime prevention advice and information. Along with any recent updates from our other policing departments and partners.

This month's Newsletter contains information on;

- **West Mercia Police Ride Along Scheme**
- **Are you aware of Community Speed Watch, and is it relevant to your parish?**
- **'Operation Snap'**
- **'WalkSafe' – Personal safety app**
- **'Crimestoppers' & 'Fearless'**
- **'Report Fraud'**
- **The Victim Support Gateway**
- **'SmartWater'**

West Mercia Police Ride Along Scheme

Ever wondered what it's really like to work in your community, tackling local issues and keeping people safe day to day? Now's your chance to find out!

Earlier this week, **West Mercia Police** relaunched the Ride Along scheme across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire, giving you the opportunity to join a neighbourhood officer on patrol and see what policing is like in your area.

During your Ride Along, you'll:
🔎Experience what a typical shift looks like for a neighbourhood officer
💬Chat with officers about local policing and community priorities
- 🤝 See first-hand how neighbourhood teams work to resolve issues or concerns in your local area

The Ride Along scheme is open to anyone aged 18 or over, and you must live in Herefordshire, Shropshire or Worcestershire.

Whether you are considering a career in policing, would like to know how your local area is being policed, or simply have an interest in policing, you are invited on shift.

Visit **https://orlo.uk/97GAY** to find out more.

Are you aware of Community Speed Watch, and is it relevant to your parish?

With Community Speed Watch now in its eighth year of operation within West Mercia, local communities are being reminded about the scheme and how volunteers can get involved in speed monitoring and improve the quality of life in their area if speeding traffic is causing concern.
Community Speed Watch is a community driven road safety initiative, coordinated by West Mercia Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community. It involves trained volunteers from the community monitoring the speeds of vehicles with approved, hand-held speed measurement devices. Where vehicle speeds are found to be inappropriate, a letter is sent to the registered keeper by the police with the aim of encouraging them to reduce their speed when driving in the future.
The scheme was introduced within West Mercia in 2014 and has gone from strength to strength over the last 8 years with over 40 active sites currently operating. It was introduced to enhance the force's speed enforcement strategy, by addressing community concerns in areas that do not meet either speed or collision criteria for police-led enforcement.

A Community Speed Watch scheme is initiated when 'speeding traffic' has been identified as a community road safety concern by a parish council or Safer Neighbourhood Team. However, several criteria must be met before a scheme can be established:

- The area must have a 30mph or 40mph speed restriction.
- Speed data collected by West Mercia Police must show that speed levels in the area do not meet the national industry requirements for police enforcement.
- No other enforcement activity is currently in place.
- There must be at least six volunteers in each Community Speed Watch scheme.
- Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers at any one time.

As part of Operation Snap, members of the public can report and submit digital footage showing potential traffic offences via a secure online form.

https://secureform.nextbase.co.uk/

This can range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists.

Please note; issues with number plates, windscreens and minor traffic offences are unable to be dealt with via Op Snap.

General parking complaints (other than illegal parking on zig zags) should be raised with the relevant local authority. Notification of untaxed vehicles can be reported directly to DVLA, reports of no MOT or no insurance should be logged to 101, not via the Op Snap portal.

Your submission will be sent to West Mercia Police where the evidence will be reviewed by one of our road traffic police officers.

One statement is required for each submission/offending vehicle. We are unable to process multiple offences sent as one submission.

We will strive to update each submitter regarding the outcome of their allegation. All submissions are dealt with pro-actively to help reduce risk taking and poor driving on our counties roads.

Any footage submitted through the portal can be used by us to help educate other road users and to advise on case results.

Please note - if you operate a recording device in a public place, you may have obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). It is in your interest to familiarise yourself, and comply with, any such obligations as apply to you. If you are in any doubt as to your obligations, please obtain independent legal advice to ensure you do not put yourself at risk of prosecution. By submitting footage you acknowledge you have read and understood this before proceeding.

For more information, please see the Frequently Asked Questions section or email OpSnap@westmercia.police.uk

‘WalkSafe’ - Personal safety app launched across West Mercia

West Mercia Police has launched a personal safety app, which aims to help people feel more confident when out and about during the busy festive period.

WalkSafe is available to people across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire and provides users with a list of safety-trained venues, including bars, restaurants and other premises that meet recognised standards through schemes such as Licensed Security & Vulnerability Initiative (LSAVI) and Best Bar None.

The app also allows people to plan their route home, share their journey with trusted friends or family and make use of an SOS alert button if they feel unsafe.

The introduction of WalkSafe across West Mercia supports ongoing work to improve safety in public spaces, particularly for women and girls.

WalkSafe is backed by West Mercia’s Police and Crime Commissioner and is funded through the Home Office. It will be available all year round.

The contacts below may be of interest to those in the parish who may be more comfortable reporting crime or giving information to the police, anonymously:

CrimeStoppers.
Speak up. Stay safe.

0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

fearless
Part of Crimestoppers

0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

Are your parishioners aware of Report Fraud?

Report Fraud

www.reportfraud.police.uk

0300 123 2040

There is now a new national cyber crime and fraud service called **Report Fraud**.

This replaces Action Fraud, which has been around since 2009, and is completely new service for reporting and responding to cyber crime and fraud. It will provide an end-to-end service, from how reports of cyber crime and fraud can be made, to how reports are analysed and how victims are supported.

Report Fraud has been designed and delivered by the City of London Police, who are the national policing lead for fraud, in close partnership with the National Crime Agency along with banking, tech and victim services.

How does Report Fraud differ from Action Fraud?

- Law enforcement agencies will be able to share data to and / or from the new service.
- The new service will assist in taking down websites, bank accounts and other channels through which criminal activity takes place.
- It will provide specialist advice and support to victims of crime.
- Be able to take forward investigations into reports of criminal activity.
- Use trends on threats at international, national, regional and local level.

Report Fraud will:

- Make it easier for anyone from any background or demographic to report cyber crime and fraud.
- Inform victims about what has happened or is happening with their report.
- Quickly and efficiently inform victims when their crime report has contributed towards the protection of others.
- Protect a greater number of people and businesses from the risk of cyber crime and fraud through delivery of targeted and timely advice on how to avoid the latest threats.
- Significantly improve the speed and quality of information provided to law enforcement partners, boosting their chances of successful prosecutions.
- Block and disrupt crime through providing real-time information to those institutions and organisations who can deter and disrupt fraudulent websites, bank accounts, and other activities enabling criminality.

The Victim Support Gateway

The Victim Support Gateway is a free and confidential support service available to anyone in Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin or Worcestershire who has been affected by crime. You'll have a named point of contact to help you with a range of services including:

- emotional support
- practical help
- help to navigate the criminal justice system
- support in dealing with services such as housing and insurance
- access to specialist support services
- personal safety advice and equipment

The Victim Support Gateway can be contacted via:

Telephone: 01905 726 896
Email: VictimSupportGateway@victimsupport.org.uk
24/7 Live Chat: Live chat

INTRODUCING SMARTWATER®

WHAT IS SMARTWATER?

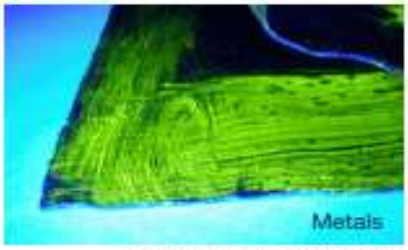
SmartWater is a sophisticated security system that protects property, deters thieves and helps the police to convict criminals. It can be directly applied to valuables or it can be used to spray criminals committing a crime. SmartWater contains a unique forensic code that is registered to an address or location. Anything marked can be traced back to where it came from, allowing the police to identify stolen property and link criminals to crime scenes. SmartWater is almost invisible in natural light but glows brightly under ultraviolet (UV) light.

WHERE IS SMARTWATER USED?

- Homes use SmartWater to protect electrical goods, jewellery and other valuables.
- Many businesses protect IT equipment, infrastructure and tools.
- Shops and banks use it to deter robberies.
- Railways are marking trackside cable.
- Cars, vans, bikes, boats, and other vehicles can all use SmartWater.
- Farms and rural communities are protecting machinery and stoneware (including paving and dry stone walls).
- Many schools protect their IT and sports equipment.
- Utility firms apply SmartWater to metals and cables.
- Thousands of Churches use SmartWater on lead roofing.
- Many Cash-in-transit cashboxes are fitted with SmartWater.
- Retail chains are using SmartWater to reduce pilferage and internal theft.

Valuables

Criminal activation on skin


Metals

Photographs taken under UV light.

WHY DO CRIMINALS AVOID SMARTWATER?

If a criminal is marked with SmartWater or caught with SmartWater-marked property, they face an increased risk of prosecution. SmartWater has helped to convict hundreds of criminals and has a 100% conviction rate. Police Forces nationwide, along with many second hand dealers, scrap merchants and recyclers are all looking for SmartWater.

For further information, please go to **www.smartwater.com** or call: **0333 320 7797**

In partnership with METROPOLITAN POLICE TOTAL POLICING

Secured by Design
Official Police Security Initiative

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HELP US TO REDUCE CRIME IN YOUR AREA

SMARTWATER®

SMARTWATER® HOME SECURITY PACK: SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL PRICE

SmartWater is manufactured right here in the West Midlands. They are a local company working in partnership with your local police to reduce crime in your communities.
Thanks to West Mercia and Warwickshire Police's **WE DON'T BUY CRIME** project, you can purchase SmartWater for your home at a special promotional price of **£19.95*** with no annual fees.

Photographs taken under ultraviolet light.

HOW SMARTWATER WORKS:

- SmartWater has a **unique forensic code** that, once applied, makes equipment traceable back to their owner
- SmartWater is **easy to apply** and only visible under UV light**
- Each application is guaranteed to last **5-years****
- Recognised by criminals - SmartWater **THIEVES BEWARE®** deterrent signage sends out a powerful warning to thieves
- Responsible for convicting hundreds of criminals, with a **100% conviction rate** in contested court cases
- Only a speck the **size of a pinhead** is required to convict
- When deployed by police, SmartWater has helped reduce burglary by up to 85%.

HOW TO BUY:

Please visit: **www.smartwater.com/redeem**
Or call: **0333 320 7797**
Use discount code: **WDBCRIME25**

WE DON'T BUY CRIME

**When applied in accordance to the application instructions

FIND OUT MORE
Scan the QR code to learn more about our products and services

Secured by Design
Official Police Security Initiative

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www.smartwater.com